



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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INTERIOR FILMS SELECTED FOR INTERNATIONAL FIIM FESTIVAL

Four new documentary motion pictures produced by Interior Department agencies in cooperation with private industry are among the eight United States Government films selected for showing at the 1956 Film Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland in August and September, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton announced today. The film festival is part of the International Festival of Music and Drama in which about 25 nations participate annually.

Two of the chosen entries were produced under the supervision of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and two under the Bureau of Mines. This is the second time this honor has been won by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Interior Department films deal with the conservation and promotion of natural resources within the respective agency jurisdictions. Boats, blue water and seafood fit for a king but within reach of all are featured in the Fish and Wildlife Service pictures; the hidden wealth of the land and the source of the tremendous energy of the atom found in a land of beauty, blue distance and romance are the theme of the films of the Bureau of Mines. The films, all in 16mm color and sound, and the names of the private industry sponsors are as follows:

Outboard Fisherman U.S.A., financed by the Outboard, Marine and Manufacturing Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, makers of outboard motors. It shows how the rugged, small, independent commercial fisherman, using outboard motors, contributes to the national economy. Scenes from 10 areas in the United States and Alaska show the catching of 10 different species of fish and shellfish using various colorful fishing techniques.

Shrimp Tips from New Orleans, financed by The Peelers Company of that cosmopolitan city, manufacturers of shrimp processing equipment. The film reflects, in its unusual style of cooking, music and architecture, the people from many countries who settled there. Six shrimp recipes are cooked and served in typical New Orleans atmosphere showing the influence of various countries upon New Orleans culture.

The Petrified River--The Story of Uranium, sponsored by Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, which is closely identified with the atomic energy program. It tells the story of the greatest metal hunt in the history of America when thousands combed the Colorado Plateau for the source material for atomic energy. It depicts the geology of the Plateau area, the search for and the drilling, mining and milling of uranium ore. It completes the story by showing the use of uranium in atomic energy for electric power and the use of radioisotopes in medicine, agriculture and biologic research.

Arizona and its Natural Resources, which depicts the major natural resources of the State and their development and utilization for the benefit of the people, financed by the Phelps-Dodge Corporation. The film shows how the great natural resources of the southwestern part of the United States lay untouched and unused for centuries, while aborigines, early Indians, Spanish conquistadors, and Mexican colonists overlooked their value. It remained for modern man, with ingenuity and imagination to develop them and to produce a rich economy and a progressive state.

These films may be secured on a loan basis without charge, although only one, Arizona and its Natural Resources, is available at the present time. The other three will probably be ready for distribution before September.

Each year the United States sends Government and non-Government films to the Edinburgh Festival. The American Government films are selected by the Interdepartmental Committee on Visual and Auditory Materials for Distribution Abroad. This committee, in turn, works through subgroups, one of which is the Subcommittee on Motion Pictures.

The Committee is now considering the selection of exhibits to the International Exhibition of Cinematographic Art which will be held in Venice, Italy, after the Edinburgh Festival.

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